

The Knoxville Independent

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Your Flag and My Flag

By WILBUR D. NESBIT

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And oh, how much it holds—
Your land and my land—secure within its folds!
Your heart and my heart beat quicker at the sight;
Sun-kissed and wind-tossed, red and blue and white.
The one Flag—the great Flag—the Flag for me and you—
Girdles all else beside—the red and white and blue.

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And how it flies today
In your land and my land and half a world away!
Rue-red and blood-red the stripes forever gleam;
Snow-white and soul-white—the good forefathers' dream.

Sky-blue and true blue, with stars to gleam aright—
The gloried guidon of the day; a shelter through the night.

Your Flag and my Flag! To every star and stripe
The drums beat as hearts beat and fifeers shrilly pipe.
Your Flag and my Flag—a blessing in the sky;
Your hope and my hope—it never hid a lie!
Home land and far land and half the world around,
Old Glory hears our glad salute and ripples to the sound!



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"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNER-SHIP, MANAGEMENT, ETC.

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Editor, Business Manager, Publisher and Owner, Geo. W. Ford.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of April 1918

Geo. S. Child, Notary Public.
(My commission expires July 14 1918)

GUESTS OF GREAT BRITAIN

American Labor Delegates Will Be Aided in Every Way in Obtaining Information.

The British government will treat as its guests members of the American Federation of Labor delegates headed by James Wilson, president of the Paternalists' League of North America, which is to visit England.

Every aid will be extended to the delegates for obtaining information, as well as to explain American labor's viewpoint and the vast energies all classes in the United States are developing in behalf of the entente allies.

The delegation will confer with the Trades Union Congress, parliamentary commission and British Labor party officials.

Decide Against "Labor Party."

The New Jersey State Labor Legislative board at a meeting attended by 500 delegates from all parts of the state, decided not to form a "Labor party."

Public Printer Cornelius Ford, was present at the meeting and was active in killing the proposed labor party.

The body pledged loyalty to the administration.

Wilson Praises Conference.

In a letter to the war conference board thanking its members for their work bringing about the recent agreement between capital and labor looking to a prevention of strikes during the war, President Wilson declared the results attained would be highly serviceable to the country.

The Reason.

"What made that man jump so and run when I said there must be a draft somewhere about? Do you think he was afraid of taking cold?"
"No; I guess he was a slacker."

Venetian Blind.

Bill—Now they say they are camouflaging gondolas on the watered streets of Venice.

Jill—Oh, well, a Venetian "blind" is not a new thing.

The Reason.

Little Tommy—Ma, why do they call them the small hours?

Tommy's Ma (with a fierce look at Tommy's pa)—Because that is the way the men who come home in 'em try to look, or an.

THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT.



1—French patrol leaving its dug-out to make a raid on the enemy trenches nearby. 2—A British soldier looking over the dreary scene of a battlefield in Flanders; in the foreground a disabled tank sinking into the quagmire. 3—Regiment of American engineers in France marching to the front.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

British Army, Now Supported by French Troops, Still Holds Back the Germans.

DRAWS BACK EAST OF YPRES

Huns Fight Furiously to Capture the Messines Ridge and Bethune—Secretary Baker Returns to Speed America's Men Across—Schwab Heads Shipbuilding.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

At the end of another week of the most sanguinary battle the world has ever known, the British army was still unbroken, its lines still unbroken. Overwhelmingly outnumbered in Flanders, Haig's men were forced to give up some important positions, and east of Ypres they withdrew from the bulging Passchendaele salient before the enemy observed the movement, and straightened and shortened their defensive line so that it was much stronger and more secure. Meanwhile French reinforcements arrived to assist the British, the commanders having decided that the Flanders offensive was not merely a diversion. To the south, on the Somme and the Aisne, the French had been stoutly repulsing every attack, and it was predicted that the time was near when General Foch, the allied commander in chief, might be expected to start his counter-offensive. Though they were still bringing fresh divisions into the battle, it was figured the Germans must be approaching the point of exhaustion, when a return blow would be most effective. Indeed, it did not seem this blow could be much longer delayed, for the British, though their spirit and courage were undiminished, were sustaining continuous attacks by an enemy which was immensely superior in numbers and was under leaders whose disregard for life was utterly reckless.

At the beginning of the week the Germans, finding they could not make much progress toward Bethune, at the south part of their salient, because of the stubborn resistance of the British at Givenchy, Festubert and Locon, turned to the north and undertook to flank Ypres by driving the British from the Baillieu-Neuve Eglise, Wulverghem-Hollabeke line. For two days the attacks of the Huns were beaten back with fearful slaughter, but then Field Marshal Haig was compelled to give ground and retired from part of the famous Messines ridge, at the same time drawing his lines nearer to Ypres. There was still higher ground at his rear, however, and his generals and men displayed a cheerful optimism that contrasted with the depression caused in England and, to a considerable extent, in America by what looked like serious reverses. Not for a minute did the men who are doing the fighting admit that they were beaten or could be beaten by any forces Hindenburg could bring against them, and though the Hun, when he had taken Baillieu, was within 24 miles of Dunkirk, they still had no idea of permitting him to force his way to the coast.

In the effort to reach the La Bassée canal and take Hazebrouck, the enemy, after intense artillery preparation, attacked along the front from Meteren to Robecq, but was repulsed at almost every point and sustained heavy losses. The allied artillery was especially effective here and east of Bethune and the Germans found it almost impossible to bring up their transport trains.

On Thursday the enemy resumed his attacks in the Bethune region, throwing a number of light bridges across La Bassée canal near Locon. These were swept away by the British artillery and machine-gun fire and large numbers of Germans were killed. Again and again the Germans renewed the attack, using more than 125,000 fresh troops on the 12-mile front between St. Venant and Givenchy, but each time they were thrown back with appalling losses. French infantry and batteries co-operated with Haig's forces.

Save for certain engineer units, the American troops had not yet been engaged in the big battle, but they were steadily and rapidly moving up to their assigned positions, and the news that more and more of them were being hurled across the Atlantic was greeted with enthusiasm by the British and French officers and men. They are needed, and needed quickly, for the allied commanders, though believing their lines cannot be broken, know the enemy is still very strong, and undoubtedly is gathering his strength for further tremendous efforts. While he well might be held by the allied forces now there, he can only be crushed and driven back when they have been greatly re-enforced by the boys from America.

Moreover, the commanders of the allies saw no greater mistake could be made than to think this is the final battle. Even if it can be called decisive, it is absolutely essential that the United States send over all its men as quickly as possible, that all possible eventualities may be faced and the right kind of a victory ultimately enforced.

That this is the view of Secretary of War Baker also is made plain in his report to the president, made on his return last week from Europe. In a sentence this was that the United States must furnish the strength that will crush Germany, and must furnish it at once. If Mr. Baker ever thought the war was "3,000 miles away," his trip abroad has cured him of the delusion. There is now no warmer advocate of the policy of giving force, precision and rapidity to American activities, and on his own behalf and that of his department he pleads for better results in hurrying men and munitions to the fighting front.

As for the American troops now in France, Mr. Baker had nothing but praise for their condition and their military qualities. They have made good in every way, he said. Those same troops during the week had opportunity to show the stuff they were made of, for several times the Germans made fierce attacks in the Toul sector. Each time they were repulsed, and the Yankees went into the fray with a joy that did the hearts of their officers good. Their bravery, coolness and efficiency were so general that their commanders had difficulty in picking out any men for especial commendation.

The evident and urgent need for more soldiers helped to hasten Lloyd George's man-power bill through parliament, despite the opposition caused by the clause applying conscription to Ireland. The government also prepared to introduce its home rule bill which it announced it would pass or fail in the attempt. There was considerable dissatisfaction in England over the fact that the British in Flanders were so badly outnumbered by the Germans, and the blame, if any, was not placed, there were insistent calls for the return of Sir William Robertson to the position of chief of the imperial general staff. On Thursday Viscount Milner was made secretary of state for war, the earl of Derby becoming ambassador to France.

Since it is still evident that "ships will win the war," and that America must supply most of the ships, our national shipbuilding agencies were reorganized last week for the fifth time and Charles M. Schwab, chairman of the board of directors of the Bethlehem Steel corporation, was given the new position of director general of shipbuilding and placed in supreme control of the construction of merchant vessels. Chairman Hurley of the shipping board and General Manager Piez will work in complete harmony with him, directing the organization necessary to carry out his plans. The necessity for some such step was shown by the official announcement of the change, which said: "The carrying forward of the construction work in the 130 shipyards now in operation is so bad that it requires a reorganization of the shipbuilding organization throughout the country." The determination to speed up shipbuilding was evidenced by the warning issued by Mr. Hurley that delinquent plants will be taken over by the government unless they show decided improvement.

The British admiralty report showed 15 British vessels sunk by submarines during the previous week, 11 of them being 1,000 tons or over.

On Monday British warships encountered a fleet of German armed trawlers in the Kattegat and sank ten of them, the nearby German naval forces

evidently not daring to come out to the rescue. The fact that the British were engaged in clearing the Kattegat of mines may portend naval operations of moment.

Turning to the east, we find the parts of the former state of Russia being exploited as fields for German ruthlessness comparable to that which devastated Belgium. According to advices in Washington, the Huns intend to make Ukraine an Austro-German colony, and are about to dissolve the rada and install a Teuton government. Already they are putting Austro-Germans into all the offices and have cut Ukraine off from all communication with Russia proper. All entente officers in the state have been ordered under arrest. Finland is running red with the blood of the people of the working class and others who oppose the White guard and the Finnish feudal class. They are pointed out to the German troops, which have occupied Helsinki, and are murdered by the latter in conjunction with the White guard. The provisional government of Finland and tens of thousands of Finns have retired to Petrograd. The brutalities of the Huns are being exhibited also in Russia itself as the troops push their way north and east. In one village the inhabitants resisted an armed requisition for money by German forces and an officer was killed in the resulting scuffle. Thereupon the Germans burned the town and with machine guns slaughtered the inhabitants as they fled from their blazing homes. Against this and other similar outrages Tschitcherin, Russian minister of foreign affairs, protested to Berlin, asking the punishment of the guilty. But can anyone recall the infliction of punishment on the Huns who perpetrated like outrages in Belgium and northern France?

Any hope that the relations between Germany and Austria-Hungary might be disrupted by the exposure of Emperor Charles' letter concerning peace and the French claim to Alsace-Lorraine was dispelled by the appointment of Baron Burian as minister of foreign affairs to succeed Count Czernin, the official goat. Burian is recognized as a firm supporter of the policy of a continued alliance with Germany and the press of both Austria and Germany assert that the country's foreign policy will not be changed by him. Dr. Von Seydler, the Austrian premier, was emphatic in stating the same view, and said those who looked to the entente for salvation would always be regarded and treated as enemies of the state. In this category he must include many of the people of Bohemia, for at a great mass meeting in Prague President Wilson was cheered and the Kaiser jeered. In Vienna there has been serious rioting by the hungry people.

Bolo Pasha, the spectacular French traitor, was executed at Vincennes on Wednesday, after having made confessions that are believed to involve many others in his infamies. In the United States men equally guilty of treason are allowed to live, and if arrested are usually let out on bail to continue their vile practices until the time comes for their trial. This may be remedied, however, by the passage of the Chamberlain bill introduced in the senate, declaring the United States a part of the military zone and making spies and disloyalists subject to trial by court-martial. Among those who appeared before the senate committee to urge the passage of this measure, was W. B. Bloodgood, chairman of the Milwaukee council of defense. He warned the senators that dire consequences might result in Wisconsin unless the government deals more effectively with disloyalty and sedition. "Feeling grows stronger with the departure of every army transport," said he, "and the people are likely to go back to primitive methods." Mr. Bloodgood asserted that pro-German propaganda has been widely disseminated in the training camps where Wisconsin troops have been quartered, and that German agents have purchased union cards and obtained employment in munition factories when they were unable to hit a nail on the head.

Extension of the espionage law to apply to women will lead to the arrest of numerous women, though many of them already have fled from the country. Most of the spies who run away go to Cuba, and it has been discovered that their headquarters are in Havana.

The week was marked by the death of United States Senator William Joel Stone of Missouri.

The Making of the Flag



By Wilbur D. Nesbit

Author of
"Your Flag and My Flag"

How did we make the flag?

By rule?

By compass, and square, and line?
With pattern, and thread, and the sempster's tool,
To follow the plain design?
Was it only the lore that the craftsmen knew
That gave us the red, and the white, and blue?
How did we make the flag?

Not all

By measuring stitch and seam,
For part of it came from a country call
And part of it is a dream—
Is a vision that led brave souls aright,
And gave us the red, and the blue, and white.
How did we make the flag?

In peace

We fashioned it fold on fold;
In war it was blend with the grim caprice
The drums in their summons rolled.
'Twas the courage alike of the quick and dead
That gave us the blue, and the white, and red.
How did we make the flag?

'Twas thus

It came to its grace and worth;
Through all that is good in the souls of us
The banner has had its birth;
'Twas the holier strength of the purpose true
That gave us the red, and the white, and blue.
Thus have we made the flag?

Ah, no!

By colors that will not fade,
By sinuous sweep and by deathless glow,
'Tis us that the flag has made!
And it whispers today to each star-told state:
"You must hold me high and must keep me great!"



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"MADE IN AMERICA"

Now Is the Time!

You know the European war has temporarily stopped the flow of foreign goods to this shore. Now is the time to learn to use "Made In America" articles. You don't have to buy anything made outside of the United States. This country produces what you want—or it soon will. When you buy at home you keep your money at home and not in the coffers of the European markets.

Draft List Big During May and June.
Washington.—Record-breaking calls for draft men during May and June have been decided upon, it was learned. The Army General Staff, it is understood at the War Department, already has transmitted to Provost Marshal General Crowder an order to induct into service next month a number of men which exceeds by far any monthly quota previously called. Other big calls will follow in rapid order. Trained troops are being moved overseas at a surprising rate, and new troops will be sent to camps.

An investigation for the purpose of improving methods for prevention and control of communicable diseases, especially near army camps, is being made by the United States public health service. The work will relate largely to the standardization and preparation of serums.

The first serum to be studied will be that used in cerebro-spinal meningitis, which has lately been prevalent in camps.

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